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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 15 Dec. 1953

SUBJECT Chemical Warfare Training in the Czechoslovak
Air Force

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DATE OF INFORMATION [REDACTED]

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

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CHEMICAL TRAINING

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1. [REDACTED] received some CW training during basic training. He said that he was not too interested in the subject matter given and remembered very little. In the [REDACTED] the CW instructor, a corporal, told the guard company, 14th Airfield Bn., [REDACTED] that special emphasis would be placed on CW training since superiors thought that men had forgotten their basic knowledge of CW. As a result, the subject was taught two or three times a week for periods of one to two hours.
2. Instructing CW class was an additional duty for the corporal; normally he was a squad leader. The instructor attended CW school in Hradec Kralove for approximately 10 months.

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CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT

3. [REDACTED] issued a gas mask of German World War II design. It was carried in a German-type metal carrier. Men were supposed to put this mask on within seven seconds, but he said that no one ever did this well.

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4. He recalled having heard [REDACTED] that a new mask of Czech 25X1A design would be issued in the future. This new mask was to have a corrugated rubber connecting hose and was to be carried in a fabric carrier worn at the side. He remembered nothing further about the mask.
5. He also received a protective cape (plastenka), which he believed to be of German World War II design. It was folded into envelope shape, about 20 x 15 cm., and slung from the gas mask shoulder strap so that it was centered across the chest. It was made of heavy black paper and was coated with a wax-like substance. When unfolded, it was about 170 x 100 cm.
6. [REDACTED] carried a small black container (6 x 3 x 2 cm.) of losantin powder in his uniform pocket, to be used as a decontamination agent in case liquid mustard got on his body.

GAS ALARM, CHEMICAL AGENTS

7. [REDACTED] not recall any special alarm that was to be given in case of a gas attack. He only knew that the first man to detect gas or a spray was to give it verbally, then don his mask and cape as quickly as possible. The mask was not to be removed until competent authority had given the order to do so.
8. He was taught that gases were classified according to their physiological effects. There were blister gases: mustard and N-mustard; choking gases: chlorine and chloropicrin; and tear gases.

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